

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 HA-05 IO-13 H-01 INR-07

PRS-01 PM-05 EUR-12 NSC-05 CIAE-00 NEA-10 /087 W

-----014174 270706Z /14-S

R 261030Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5658

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 2210

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, SO, KE, US

SUBJ: SOMALI MINISTER TERMS US VISIT SUCCESSFUL

REFS: A) STATE 295102 (NOTAL); B) STATE 301323 (NOTAL)

1. THE AMBASSADOR CALLED ON MINISTER HUSSEIN ABDULKADIR KASSIM, THE CHIEF OF THE SOMALI GOODWILL DELEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES, ON DECEMBER 24 TO RECEIVE THE MINISTER'S IMPRESSIONS OF HIS TRIP. KASSIM WAS ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT HIS RECEPTION IN WASHINGTON. HE THANKED THE AMBASSADOR WARMLY FOR THE EMBASSY'S AND AF/E'S EFFORTS IN HELPING TO ARRANGE CALLS ON SECRETARY VANCE, NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR BRZEZINSKI, AMBASSADOR YOUNG, AND THE BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE. THESE POLICY-MAKERS, KASSIM RELATED, STRONGLY URGED SOMALIA TO LAUNCH A PEACE OFFENSIVE. PRESIDENT SIAD'S TRIP TO ANTANANARIVO IN THE 23RD WAS  
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A DIRECT RESULT OF THIS ADVICE, KASSIM ASSERTED, AND THE GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA (GSDR) WILL BE FOLLOWING IT WITH OTHER SIMILAR AND RELATED EFFORTS. IN THIS CONNECTION HE ASSERTED THE GSDR'S STRONG DESIRE TO REACH AN UNDERSTANDING WITH KENYA. HE ALSO REPEATED THE STANDARD ARGUMENT THAT THIRD POWERS ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING A DETERIORATION IN SOMALIA-KENYAN RELATIONS.

2. KASSIM REPORTED HE ALSO SAW A NUMBER OF CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS INCLUDING SPEAKER O'NEIL, CHAIRMAN MELVIN PRICE, SENATOR JAVITS, AND REPRESENTATIVE DIGGS. KASSIM SAID HE FOUND WIDE SYMPATHY FOR THE GSDR POSITION ON THE HILL, AND CAME AWAY CORRESPONDINGLY ENCOURAGED. HE ALSO EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT HE HAD BEEN ABLE TO TALK TO A NUMBER OF JOURNALISTS.

3. THE AMBASSADOR USED THE OCCASION OF THE CORDIAL MEETING TO RAISE UNITED STATES POLICY ON HUMAN RIGHTS, EXPLAINING THAT WITH OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS IMPROVING, IT WAS INEVITABLE THAT THERE WOULD BE LEGITIMATE QUESTIONS ON THIS SUBJECT. THE AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT THAT CERTAIN SOMALIS WITH WHOM US OFFICIALS HAD IN THE PAST WORKED IN GOOD FAITH WERE NOW DETAILED, AT LEAST ONE OF WHOM IS HELD UNDER THE CONCEPT OF PRISONER IN A FORTRESS. THE AMBASSADOR SAID ALTHOUGH THE USG HAD NO DESIRE TO BE INTRUSIVE, THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS WAS ONE THAT BOTH PARTIES WOULD HAVE TO FACE SQUARELY. HUSSEIN LISTENED PATENTLY. HE SAID HE WOULD EXAMINE PRESIDENT CARTER'S STATEMENT CAREFULLY (STATE 302638), BUT WOULD LIKE TO CONSIDER THE MATTER BEFORE RESPONDING TO THE AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS. (THE AMBASSADOR WILL DISCUSS THIS SUBJECT WITH OTHER APPROPRIATE LEADERS.)

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4. COMMENT: HUSSEIN WAS CLEARLY PLEASED BY THE RECEPTION HE ENJOYED IN WASHINGTON. HIS COMMENT THAT SIAD'S TRIP TO THE MALAGASY REPUBLIC FOLLOWS ON WASHINGTON'S ADVICE MAY BE PARTLY SELF-SERVING, BU KASSIM WAS APPARENTLY SINCERE IN HIS ASSERTION THAT THE GSDR IS EMBARKED ON A PEACE EFFORT. HE WAS STUDIOUSLY NON-COMMITTAL WHEN THE SUBJECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS WAS RAISED. HE IS ONE OF THE MORE RECEPTIVE SOMALI MINISTERS, HOWEVER AND OFFERS A USEFUL CHANNEL TO RECORD OUR INTEREST IN WHAT IS OBVIOUSLY GOING TO BE ONE OF THE MOST SENSITIVE AREAS OF OUR BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP.  
LOUGHRAN

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## Message Attributes

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